



Summer Food Service Program



Bulletin

Child Nutrition Programs
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To: SFSP Sponsors
Program Reviewers

Date: September 7, 2017

Bulletin: 2017 – 10

From: Alicia Maryott
SFSP Program Specialist

Subject: USDA Policy Memos and Information

USDA Policy Memos, Information & Implementation Memos:

To view previous USDA policy memos, visit:
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/policy>

Additional Topics:

- 2017 SFSP Debrief Survey
- FRAC Guide: Evaluating Last Summer (*attachments*)
- Turnip the Beet & Summer Sunshine Awards (*attachments*)
- Share Tables and Food Recovery in Child Nutrition Programs (*attachments*)

Program changes as a result of USDA Policy Memos are to be implemented immediately. Please file this bulletin for reference, guidance and compliance with the Summer Food Service Program. Feel free to call the Child Nutrition Programs office if you need further clarification.

Additional Topics

- **SFSP Debrief Survey**
Summer 2017 is wrapping up and we want to hear from you! Successes and challenges alike, we want to know how your SFSP experience was this year. Please complete the end of year survey [here](#) by **Thursday, October 28th**! Your feedback is greatly appreciated and will be incorporated into training and technical assistance to better support SFSP in the coming year.
- **FRAC Guide: Evaluating Last Summer**
As a current sponsor of either summer nutrition program, it is important to evaluate your operations each year and determine which practices were the most effective and should be continued next summer. Be sure to consider an evaluation component as you plan your program. See the **attached** handout from FRAC for more information on evaluating your SFSPs for effectiveness and program improvement.
- **Turnip the Beet & Summer Sunshine Awards**
USDA has released nomination materials for the 2017 Western Region Summer Sunshine Awards as well as the National Turnip the Beet Award. This year's awards will recognize sponsors and partners who show extraordinary efforts in contributing to the success of summer meals programs for children and teens. Through these nominations, we wish to recognize the outstanding organizations that



dedicate their time, efforts, and resources to ensure that children and teens have access to healthy meals during the summer months. Sponsors and partners may self-nominate using the attached entry forms or may be sponsored by the State Agency, in which case we may be asking for some information about your programs.

The 2017 Western Region Summer Sunshine Award categories for sponsor nominations are:

1. Bringing the Farm to Summer Meals
2. Raising Community Awareness
3. Innovative and Impactful Enrichment Activities
4. Reaching Rural, Tribal, and/or Underserved Communities
5. Excellence in Community Partnerships
6. Turnip the Beet: High Quality Summer Meals* (National Award)



Attached is the electronic nomination packet containing:

1. Introduction to the Summer Sunshine Awards (Contains detailed descriptions of each award category)
2. Entry form for each Summer Sunshine Award Category
3. Introduction to Turnip the Beet
4. 2017 Turnip the Beet Application

- **Share Tables and Food Recovery in Child Nutrition Programs**

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development (EED) have collaborated on guidance for implementing food recovery at school-aged child nutrition programs including schools, outside school hour programs, and summer feeding programs. In an effort to reduce the amount of food waste and encourage the consumption of food served, many food service operations have established “share tables.” Children can place unconsumed food and beverage items that they choose not to eat or drink on the table, providing other children the opportunity to take additional helpings of food or beverages at no extra cost. For more information on share tables, please see the **attached** handout.



In addition to share tables, another method for reducing food waste is the use of donations to local food banks, food pantries or homeless shelters. As long as program operators are planning and preparing meals with the intent to serve one reimbursable meal per child, per day, programs that occasionally have unexpected meal or food surpluses may donate leftover foods. Please see the **attached** handout on food recovery for more information.

Contact Information

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Commonly Used Acronyms

SFSP – Summer Food Service Program
CNP – Child Nutrition Programs
WRO – Western Region Office
FNS – Food & Nutrition Services
FNSRO-Food & Nut. Services Reg. Office
USDA – U.S. Department of Agriculture
EED – Education & Early Development
DEC – Department of Conservation
LEA – Local Education Agency



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